

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are currently pending in this application, claims 1, 14 and 18 being the independent claims. In view of the amendments to the claims and the following remarks, reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

In the Office Action dated October 5, 2004, claims 1, 2, 5, 14, 15 and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,762,985 to Imai et al. (the '985 patent). Claims 3, 4, 16 and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the '985 patent in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,223,986 to Bobba et al. ("the '986 patent"). Claims 6-8, 19 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the '985 patent in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,230,976 to Sautter et al. ("the '976 patent"). Claim 9 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the '985 patent in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,007,729 to Erickson et al. ("the '729 patent"). Claim 10 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the '985 patent in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0011520 to Gurevich et al. Claims 11-13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0131139 to Mandella et al.

A telephone interview was conducted on March 7, 2005 with Examiner Trail. During the interview, Examiner Trail indicated that the claims would define over the art of record if amended to further define an imaging optics assembly. Independent claims 1, 14 and 18 were amended accordingly.

It is respectfully submitted that claims 2-13, 15-17 and 19-20 which directly or indirectly depend from one of independent claims 1, 14 and 18, are patentable for at least the reasons that

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claims 1, 14 and 18 are patentable.

It is respectfully submitted that none of the references of record disclose or suggest the present invention as claimed in the claims as amended, considered individually or in combination, with themselves, considered in whole or in part. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

Early and favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner feel that a telephone or personal interview may facilitate resolution of any remaining matters, she is respectfully requested to contact Applicant's attorney at the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,



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